

**Nutrition in Public Health Preparedness**

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**The world as we knew it has changed!**

- We need to plan for the unthinkable.
- Prepare for natural occurring disasters.
- Ultimately, we'll have a comprehensive system that can respond to anything!



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**Why we are here!**

National perspective  
State plans  
Local nutrition input

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The concept of intentional harm to our food supply strikes at the very root of an American definition of peace and prosperity. Vigilance begins by challenging our complacency.

J Am Diet Assoc 2003: 103:6

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- How do disasters, whether natural or manmade, affect the status of food and/or nutrition?

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## Consequences of an event on the food chain

- Contamination
- Disruption of the food supply
- Limited access to specific foods or groups of foods
- Psychological
- Economic

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## Preparedness = Food Security

- In the broadest sense of the phrase, "food security" should not only include safeguarding our food supply but also include access to adequate food at all times

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## Feeding Masses



- Feeding large groups of people during a time of need is not new.
- The conditions under which we must be prepared to do so has changed!

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**Nutrition Need/Role:  
Food/Feeding not Routinely  
Covered by Red Cross**

- Emergency/volunteer workers
- Donated foods
- Quarantine/mass clinics
- Special Needs

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**Nutrition Need/Role:  
Assessment and Surveillance  
Needs/Capacity**

- Data/indicators
- Perceptions
- Food and Nutrition Programs and Resources
- Alliances/partnerships with food/hunger organizations and retailers



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**Assessment continued:  
Community Food  
Resources/Networks**

- Assessment of resources and coordination of food programs
- Collaboration on early alert surveillance
- Pre-emergency/emergency/post emergency food programs/services
- Farm to table food programs/promotion
- Public food safety and nutrition education

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**Nutrition Need/Role:  
Food Safety**

- Identification of food and waterborne threats to high risk groups and participation in investigation of food-borne illness.

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**Nutrition Need/Role:  
Food Safety continued. . .**

- Food Safety training of employees and community volunteers
- Food safety training/monitoring of unregulated sources, i.e., pantries, meal sites

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“Dietetic professionals have been recognized for being an important educational link to consumers and critical to the monitoring of any unusual foodborne outbreaks.”

JADA 2003; 103: 1203-1218

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“Registered dietitians are trained in food safety, HACCP procedures, and food and nutrition education.”

JADA, 103: 6, June 2003

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**Nutrition Need/Role:  
Distribution Sites**

- Donation sites
- Special nutrition sites

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**Nutrition Need/Role: Food Needs  
During Emergency/Displacement**

- Determination of household level of food availability and consumption
- Transport and distribution records for foods
- Identify essentials for food interventions
- Track changes in nutritional status of population
- Safety net for high risk and assure food assistance
- Nutrition care management

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**Nutrition Need/Role:  
Education Focused**

- Professional Communication/Education
- Mass Communications
- Consumer Food Handling and Safety

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**FEMA Emergency Long  
Term Food Supplies**

Wheat	20#	
Corn	20#	
Soybeans	10#	
Iodized Salt	1#	
Vitamin C	15 gms	
Powdered Milk		

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**Nutrition Role/Need: Example of a  
Nutrition Program Preparedness  
Plan--WIC**

- Contact staff/phone tree
- Weather related emergency
- Determine program closings
- Notification of participants of program closings
- Facility/equipment breakdowns or closings
- Alternative issuance sites/methods
- Manual draft stock (need program policy change)
- Printed info for participants about foods necessities during emergency
- Syndromic surveillance/threshold
- Issuance of "homeless" food packages
- Food safety education of participants

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## Case Study

- WIC Program
- Missed appointments
- No shows for drafts

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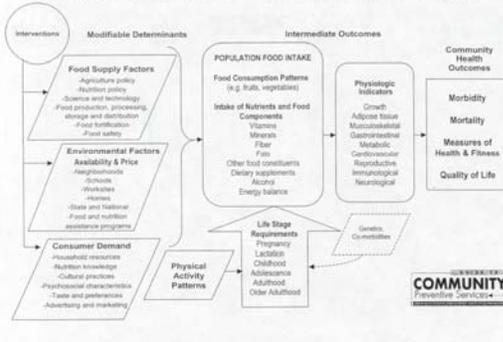
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LOGIC FRAMEWORK ILLUSTRATING CONCEPTUAL APPROACH TO NUTRITION & COMMUNITY HEALTH



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## Local Example of Developing Nutrition in Preparedness

- Preparedness funds
- Followed framework
- Lessons learned

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**Partnerships: A Key for Preparedness in the Food and Nutrition System in Public Health**



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**Discussion**

Available to meet with consortiums

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